

but \$26,150 comes out of the Game Commission fund and \$2,994 would be out of the general fund and I think the main thing that we have to remember that these conservation officers are in the same pay grade as the State Patrol. They work the same hours and they enforce all the laws and regulations in our state park system. They enforce all the boating laws and they assist in riot control and training and at least 40% of the time they are facing people that are carrying guns and I believe that they should be treated the same as the State Patrol inasmuch the description of their position is the same as the State Patrol that work the same hours etc. I move for the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Barnett why he wants to pluck out conservation officers and furnish them a longevity salary and why don't we go with everybody if this is good for one section?

SENATOR BARNETT: I'd buy that but I think it's easier to start with one foot and then you can come in with the others later on.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, thank you. I think that Senator Warner deserves some support on this and until we are willing to go all the way with all and treat them fairly, treat them all alike, we should stay away from this sort of practice. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, I would have to support Senator Warner. I think the mistake was made, probably last year, when we passed the law that would give the State Patrol this longevity pay. It isn't that they no doubt deserve it. I'm sure the conservation officers do. I'm sure there's a lot of more people that work for the State of Nebraska it would be a great thing but it's just, I think, impossible and although let's say we made a mistake by doing this for the State Patrol, I think we should stop and reconsider right now before we start adding any more groups. Then if we can work a system that will take in every state employee, because I can see really, not a great deal of difference between say, the Welfare Department. Everyone knows when they go to work for an agency, what the work entails and they take it under those conditions, just the same as we did when we run for the Legislature and the big problem as I see it is not today. It's twenty years down the road. The \$29,000 today sounds very innocuous, very small but think about this. Twenty years down the road, add to that the patrol, add to that all the other agencies that will be in asking for the same thing and they deserve it, remember what happened to New York City and I see this in the same respect exactly for the State of Nebraska if we continue to do this.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Barnett indicated he's attempting to get a foot in the door and I think we should just slam the door on his foot as quick as we can.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett, would you care to respond?